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The CIA Recruits

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THE NEWS that the Central Intelligence Agency is recruiting on college campuses should not come as a surprise.

If there is any department of government which should have the best talent available, it is the CIA, the eyes and ears of our nation around the world.

It is symptomatic of a sorry condition of our times that this recruiting effort should have come to public attention because some students of a small college in Iowa saw fit to picket the CIA representative visiting their school.

THEY WERE protesting the CIA man's presence. Why?

No one was being forced to make application.

Do such misguided youngsters think it wrong to accept government employment? Do they think that the other federal jobs being filled by thousands of college men who flock to grab off these positions in the wide-ranging bureaucracy through which this country is run are tarnished?

Of course not.

Nor are jobs with the CIA to be spurned or scorned.

The few who made up the protesting picket lines, could be dismissed as "kooks", except that they represent the sophomoric immaturity and egocentricity which has permitted a vocal segment of

our college students to fall victims to propaganda which leads them to believe that being anti-government somehow marks them as liberals and members of the intelligentsia.

NOTHING could be further from the truth.

Their nation, their opportunity for education, their right even to be stupidly and dangerously wrong, exist only because of the patriotism, moral standards and dedication to American ideals of those who built the United States and those who continue to serve the country today.

The CIA exists because the United States and its policies are under constant and bitter attack. It is part of our national security force and upon its services could well depend the perpetuation of our country.

Its recruiting is not designed to turn up cloak and dagger spies. The CIA is seeking qualified individuals to do the painstaking research and analysis which make up the greatest part of its work.

"WE WANT good people. We're out looking for them," Col. Stanley J. Grogan, assistant to Adm. William F. Raborn, director of the CIA, explains.

We're all for it.

None of the pickets need apply, for obvious reasons.

And that's a good thing, too.